



TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. SODERMAN
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
and YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY
Energy and Technology Committee—March 8, 2012

H.B. No. 5385 AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY RETROFITS FOR CERTAIN BUILDINGS AND THE DISCLOSURE OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

My name is Richard Soderman and I serve as Director of Legislative Policy for Northeast Utilities Service Company. I am appearing on behalf of the Connecticut Light and Power Company and Yankee Gas Services Company.

This bill proposes to require disclosure of energy use in residential and non-residential buildings at the time of sale or lease to potential buyers or their banks, or disclose such information for non-residential buildings publically on a schedule that begins in 2015.

We are concerned that the proposed bill concludes that the benefits of such a disclosure program will outweigh the additional costs associated with the program. As proposed, the draft would require local utilities amass a substantial amount of data and retain such data to be used in a process to support the disclosure proposal. We note that oil and propane providers do not also carry the burden for maintaining five years' data. This data process could represent a significant administrative burden. Others will see significant administrative burdens as well. We are also concerned whether our required participation in the information disclosure could somehow place liability on us as part of real estate transactions.

We respectfully suggest that the proposed bill be made more flexible with regard to the program design and require the DEEP to undertake a review of the best approach, estimated costs and benefits before the mandates are implemented.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this proposal.